Oct. 28, 1941. C. W. HERBST 2,260,377

HEEL BONE POCKETING ACCESSORY FOR SHOES

Filed April 29, 1939

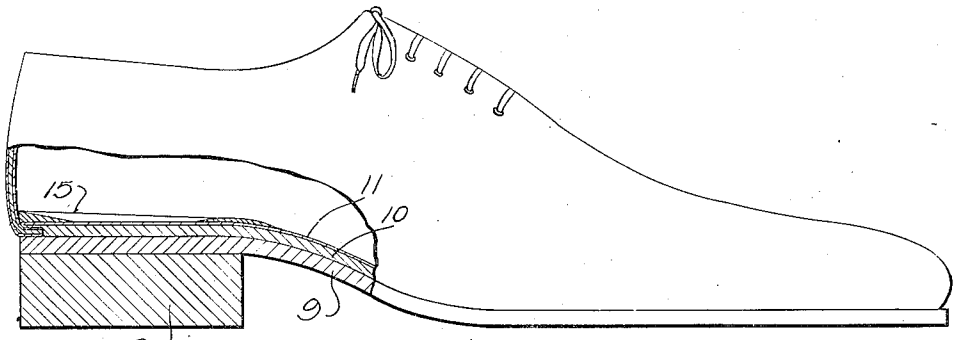


Fig. 1.

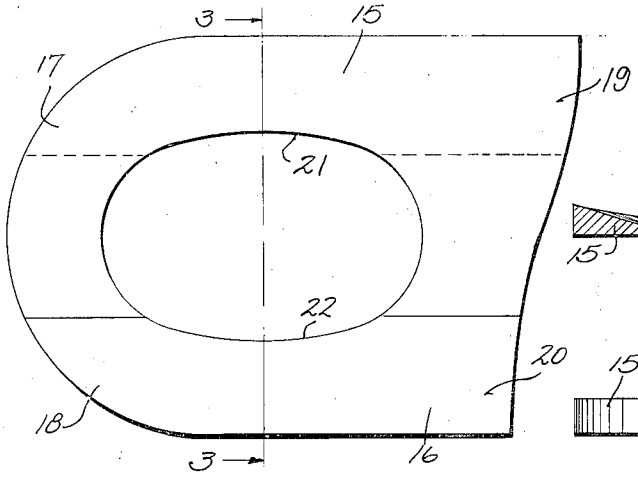


Fig. 2.

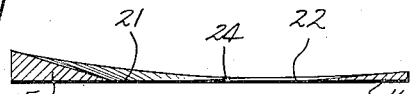


Fig. 3.

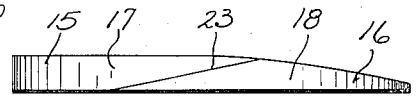


Fig. 4.

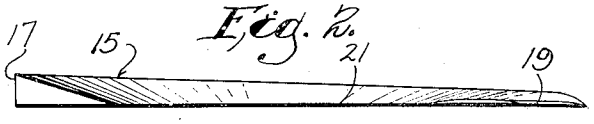


Fig. 5.

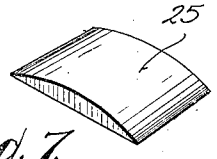


Fig. 7.

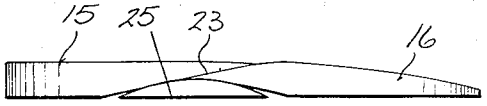


Fig. 6.

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Patented Oct. 28, 1941 2,260,377

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,260,377

HEEL BONE POCKETING ACCESSORY FOR SHOES

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Application April 29, 1939, Serial No. 270,712

5 Claims. (Cl. 36—71)

This invention relates to improvements in heel bone pocketing accessories for shoes.

It is the primary object of the invention to provide an accessory adaptable in size to fit a wide variety of shoes for pocketing the wearer's heel bone whereby to increase the comfort of the shoe and improve it from a physiological standpoint.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of the stated character comprising a plurality of parts usable separately where required to correct a foot fault.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a shoe broken away to a longitudinal section at the heel to show the application of my improved accessory in section thereto.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the accessory as it appears in plan.

Fig. 3 is a view taken in section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of the structure shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a side elevation of one of the component elements making up the device shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 is a rear elevation similar to Fig. 4 showing the device expanded for use in a larger shoe.

Fig. 7 is a detail view in perspective of an insert usable in the expanded device.

Like parts are identified by the same reference characters throughout the several views.

The shoe illustrated in Fig. 1 is intended to represent any conventional shoe. As illustrated, the shoe has a heel 8, outsole 9, insole 10, and sock lining 11. My accessory may be used either on top of the sock lining as illustrated or, by lifting the sock lining at the heel, the accessory may be placed therebeneath. In the event that the heel seat in the shoe is convex, as frequently happens in commercial shoes, my appliance will go far toward correction of the undesirable convexity, but it is also possible to use a convex reamer to make the shoe heel seat slightly concave before applying my accessory, if desired.

My accessory may be made of leather, fiber, rubber, sponge rubber or other materials. Because different portions of it preferably vary in thickness, I prefer to make up the appliance in "lefts" and "rights" according to the shoe in which the appliance is to be worn. The appliance illustrated is for use in a right hand shoe and comprises an inside member 15 and an outside member 16.

Together the members 15 and 16 comprise a socketed accessory corresponding in size and shape to the heel seat of the shoe. The rear portions 17 and 18 are convexly rounded to fit the counter. The sides are approximately parallel and the front edges 19 and 20 may be curved as shown. Members 15 and 16 are arcuately notched at 21 and 22, the two notches registering as shown in Fig. 2 to comprise a central opening to which all of the top surfaces of members 15 and 16 slope in the manner clearly shown in Fig. 5.

Members 15 and 16 have long beveled portions at front and rear to overlap as shown in Fig. 3. Member 15 may be beveled upwardly from below and member 16 beveled downwardly from above, or vice versa. By skiving or molding the members 15 and 16 to provide the elongated lap joints shown at 23 and 24, many advantages are achieved.

In Fig. 4 the device is illustrated at substantially the minimum width for which the particular appliance is designed to be used. Fig. 6 shows the parts 15 and 16 separated by sliding them apart on the joint 23 to greatly increase the overall width of the appliance. To compensate for the reduced center thickness of the composite appliance at the joint 23, I may introduce beneath the joint when the members 15 and 16 are thus spread apart, a support 25 such as is shown in detail in Fig. 7. This support may comprise a fragment of a cylindrical or triangular prism, the cylindrical form being illustrated.

For the normal foot it is preferred that the inside lift or element 15 be materially thicker at the edge than the outside element 16. In actual practice the height of the composite appliance may be $\frac{1}{8}''$ or slightly more at the rear margin, and $\frac{1}{8}''$ at the inside edge, thence decreasing gradually to $\frac{1}{16}''$ just before the device tapers off to the forward edge 19. At the right hand side or outside of the appliance shown, the composite device tapers to $\frac{3}{32}''$ near the mid point of its side margin and thence to a scant $\frac{1}{32}''$ near its front edge just before it is beveled to the forward margin 20. The highest point of the element 15 between the central opening of the appliance and the forward margin is somewhat higher than the corresponding portion of the outside element 16, as clearly appears in Fig. 3.

For corrective purposes either one of the elements 15 or 16 may be used separately, thereby throwing the wearer's heel to the right or to the left slightly as may be required.

From the standpoint of the generic invention

herein disclosed, it may sometimes be immaterial whether the appliance be made of separate elements 15 and 16, or whether the central aperture penetrates completely through the appliance.

I claim:

1. A heel socketing accessory for shoes comprising an appliance having a central depression and an upper surface whereof all portions except the extreme forward marginal portions slope toward said depression from all sides thereof, said last mentioned portions sloping forwardly, said appliance conforming in its longitudinal and lateral dimensions to the heel seat portion of a shoe, said appliance comprising elements laterally adjacent said depression at opposite sides thereof and having complementarily beveled portions extending about said depression at the rear thereof and adjustably overlapped, whereby to permit of variation in the spacing of said elements from each other.

2. A heel socketing accessory for a shoe, comprising a centrally apertured appliance receivable in the heel seat of a shoe and composed of two relatively adjustable sections each having end portions adapted to be overlapped and intermediate notched portions adapted for registry to provide the aperture of said appliance.

3. A heel socketing accessory for shoes, comprising a centrally apertured appliance including mutually adjustable elements having elongated beveled portions overlapped at opposite sides of said aperture.

4. A heel socketing accessory for a shoe, comprising a centrally recessed appliance composed of separate inside and outside members beveled toward said aperture and toward each other and normally overlapped at opposite sides of the recess and individually usable for corrective purposes.

5. A device of the character described, comprising inside and outside members with registering notches constituting a central aperture, said members being provided with overlapped beveled portions, and a third member supplementing the thickness of the overlapped beveled portions at the rear of the first and second members.

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